

REMARKS

Claim 26 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-25, 27-41, and 43 are allowed. (Action at pages 2-3). Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because it is believed that the cancellation of claim 26 puts this application into condition for allowance and should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new issues are being raised.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

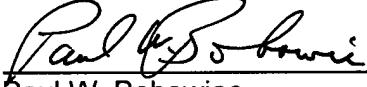
If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: October 24, 2006

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